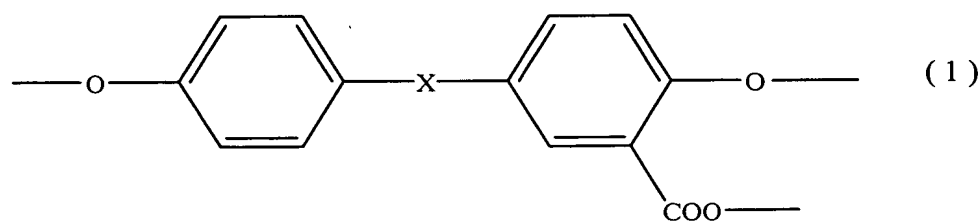
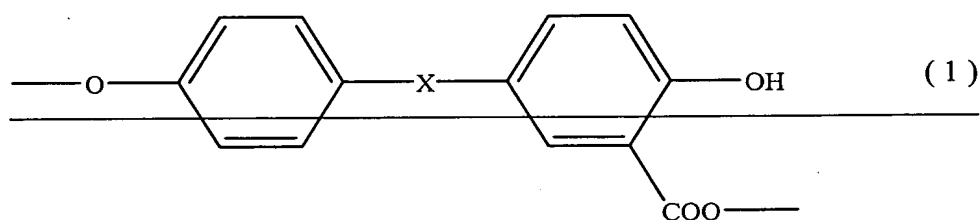


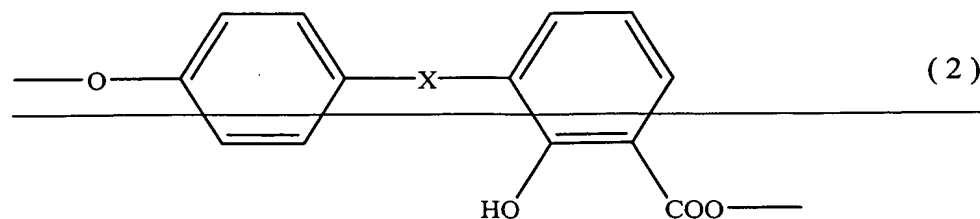
**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

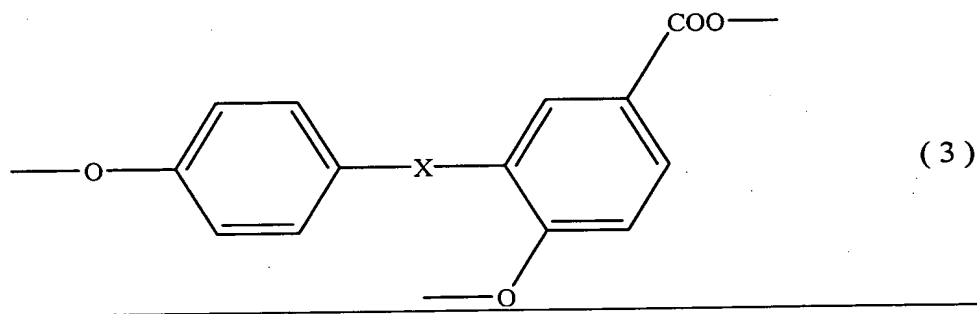
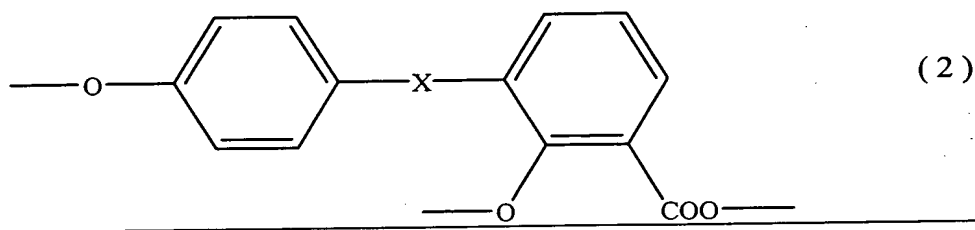
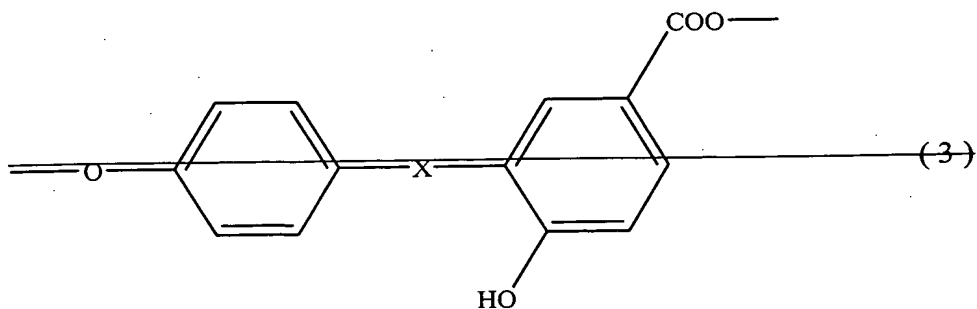
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Namely, the present invention provides a branched aromatic polycarbonate obtained by transesterification and having a viscosity average molecular weight of at least 16,000, wherein the amount of structural units of the following formula (1) contained in its main chain is within a range of from 2,000 to 50,000 wtppm, and the amounts of structural units of the following formulae (2) and (3) contained in its main chain are within a range of from 30 to 10,000 wtppm, respectively:



wherein X is a single bond, a C₁₋₈ alkylene group, a C₂₋₈ alkylidene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylidene group or a member selected from bivalent groups represented by -O-, -S-, -CO-, -SO- and -SO₂-,

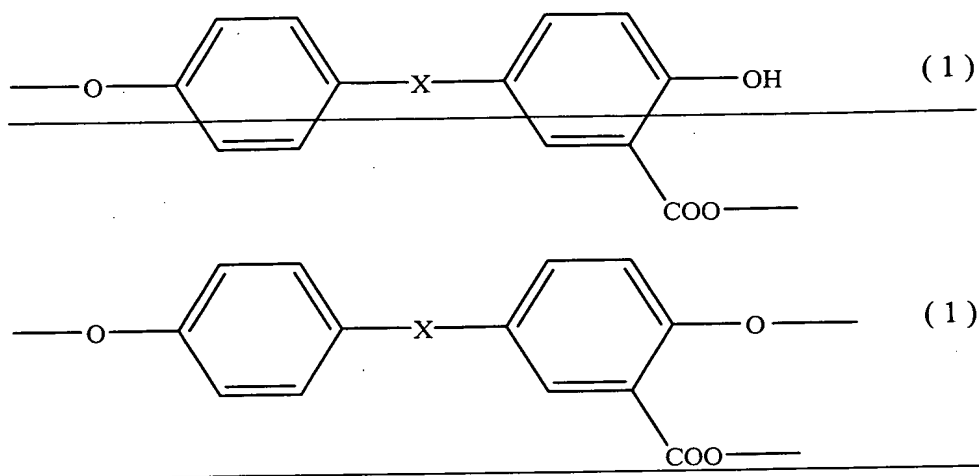




wherein X is a single bond, a C₁₋₈ alkylene group, a C₂₋₈ alkylidene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylidene group or a member selected from bivalent groups represented by -O-, -S-, -CO-, -SO- and -SO₂-.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

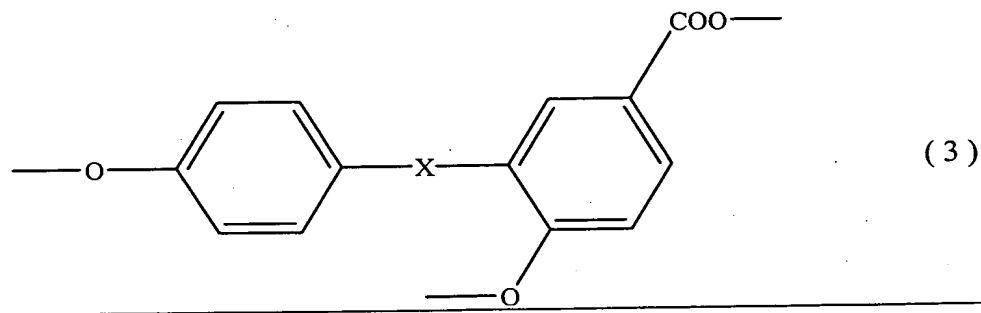
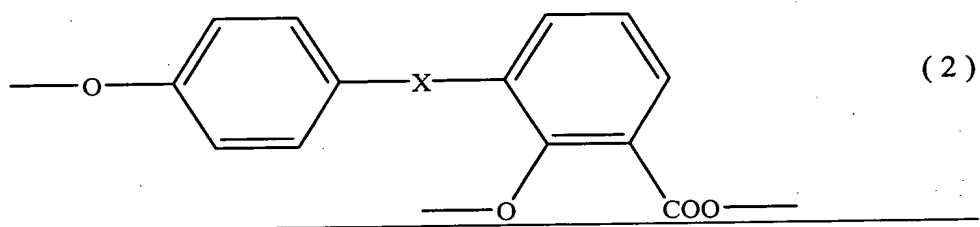
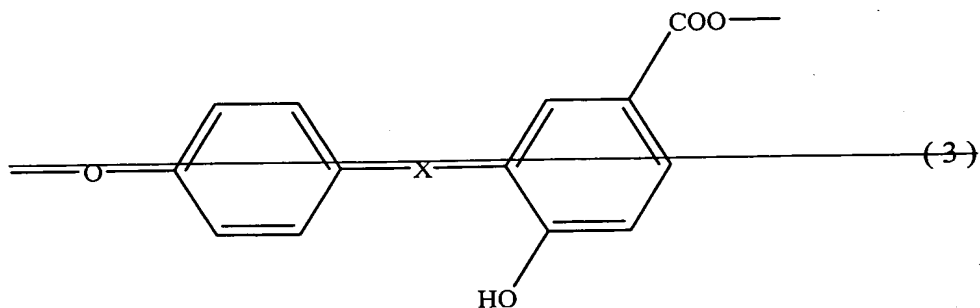
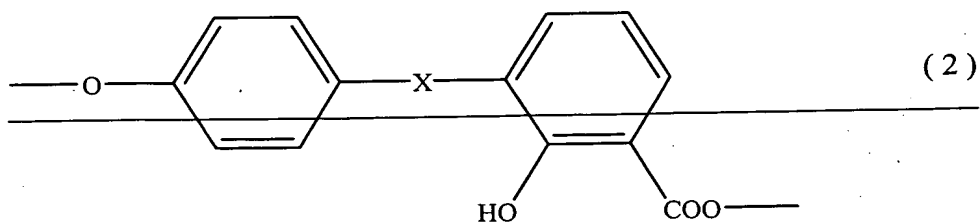
Further, the amount of structural units of the following formula (1) contained in the main chain of the branched aromatic polycarbonate of the present invention is required to be within a range of from 2,000 to 50,000 wtppm, preferably from 3,000 to 10,000 wtppm, more preferably from 3,100 to 9,000 wtppm, particularly preferably from 3,100 to 8,000 wtppm:



wherein X is a single bond, a C₁₋₈ alkylene group, a C₂₋₈ alkylidene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylidene group or a member selected from bivalent groups represented by -O-, -S-, -CO-, -SO- and -SO₂-. If the amount of the structural units of the formula (1) exceeds 50,000 wtppm, gel of the produced aromatic polycarbonate is likely to form, such being unfavorable, and further, the hue tends to deteriorate. On the other hand, if it is less than 2,000 wtppm, no intended melt properties by branching will be obtained.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, the amounts of the structural units of the following formulae (2) and (3) contained in the main chain of the branched aromatic polycarbonate of the present invention are preferably within a range of from 30 to 10,000 wtppm, more preferably from 30 to 5,000, particularly preferably from 40 to 4,000 wtppm, respectively:

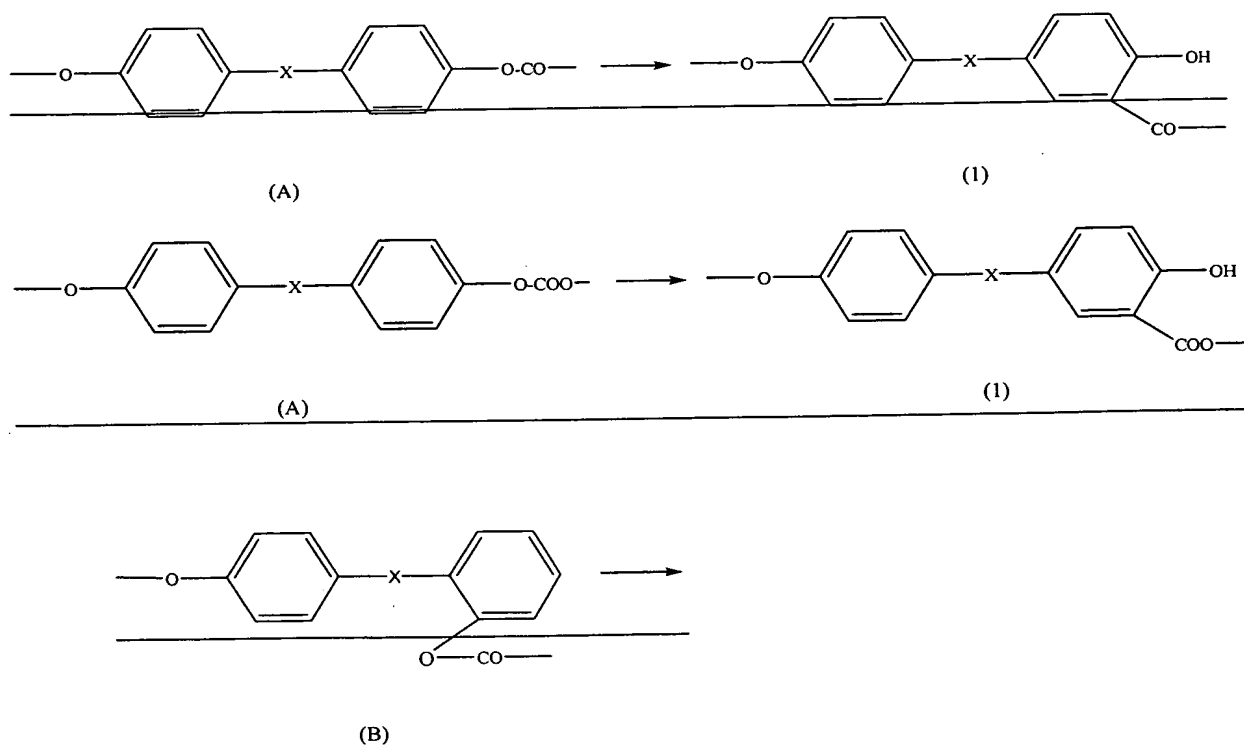


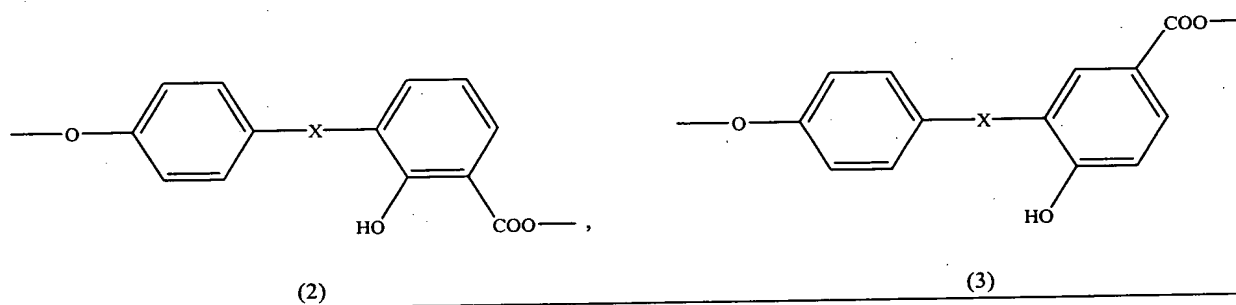
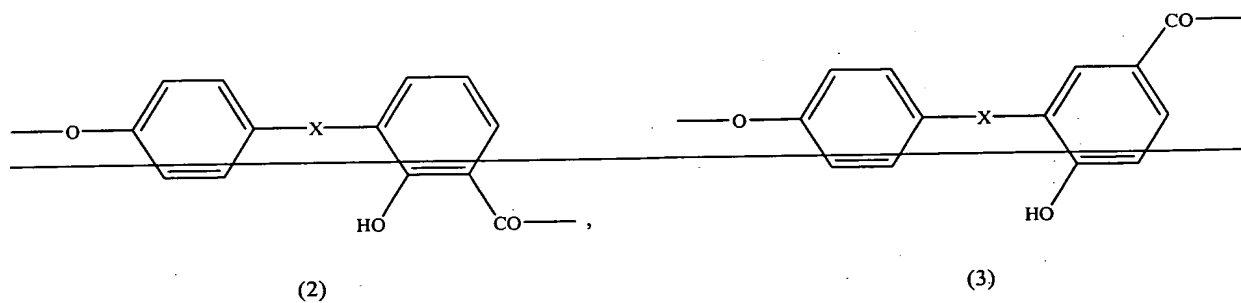
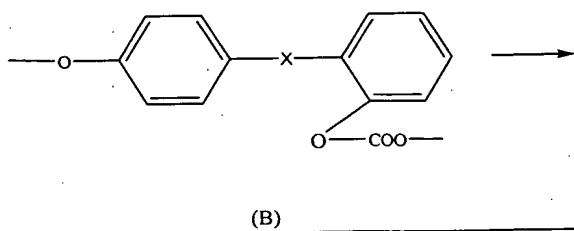
wherein X is a single bond, a C₁₋₈ alkylene group, a C₂₋₈ alkylidene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylene group, a C₅₋₁₅ cycloalkylidene group or a member selected from bivalent groups represented by -O-, -S-, -CO-, -SO- and -SO₂-. If the amounts of the structural units of the formulae (2) and (3) exceed 10,000 wtppm, branching tends to be too excessive, gelation tends to proceed, whereby molding of the polymer tends to be difficult, such being unfavorable, and further, the hue tends to deteriorate. On the other hand, if they are less than

30 wtppm, fluidity under a high load will not increase, and no intended melt properties by branching will be obtained.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The transfer reaction is such a reaction that the carbonyl group forming the carbonic acid ester linkage transfers to the 2- or 4-position of the aromatic ring as shown in the following formula, and the structural units of the above formula (1) are formed from the structural units (A) derived from a 4,4'-bisphenol compound, and structural units of the above formula (2) or (3) are formed from the structural units (B) derived from a 2,4-bisphenol compound (provided that one molecular chain has a large number of structural units (B), and in such a case, a structure comprising both the units of the formulae (2) and (3) is obtained).





Please replace the abstract at page 34, with the following rewritten abstract:

ABSTRACT

It is to provide a branched aromatic polycarbonate excellent in hue and excellent in melt properties such as melt strength. A branched aromatic polycarbonate obtained by transesterification and having a viscosity average molecular weight of at least 16,000, wherein the amount of structural units of the following formula (1) contained in its main chain is within a range of from 2,000 to 50,000 wtppm, and the amounts of structural units of the following formulae (2) and (3) contained in its main chain are within a range of from 30 to 10,000 wtppm, respectively:

